

In the Claims

1-68. (Cancelled)

69. (New) A method of distributing video sequences in a coded stream including a succession of frames each comprising at least one Intra-frame coded image (I picture) and at least one Prediction coded image corresponding to differences between one digital image excluding said I picture and at least one other digital image comprising:

analyzing an original coded stream prior to transmission to an input/output device of a client and generating a first modified stream and a second stream, wherein said first modified stream includes a modified Prediction coded image, which is modified from said at least one Prediction coded image so that a resulting video sequence is visually altered, and an I picture, which is not modified, said first modified stream maintaining an encoding system applied to said original coded stream after said modification, and said second stream including digital information that allows a reconstruction from said modified Prediction coded image;

separately transmitting the two generated streams from a server to a destination device; and

synthesizing said first modified stream and said second stream at the destination device and reconstructing said original coded stream.

70. (New) The method according to claim 69, wherein said Prediction coded image is an interframe Prediction coded image and/or a bidirectional Prediction coded image calculated by motion compensation for the interframe Prediction coded image or the I picture.

71. (New) The method according to claim 69, wherein said second stream includes a pre-modification image that corresponds to the modified Prediction coded image in said first modified stream; and at said destination device, the modified Prediction coded image in said first

modified stream is replaced with the corresponding image in said second stream in the synthesis of reconstructing said original coded stream.

72. (New) The method according to claim 69, wherein said modified Prediction coded image is a replacement P picture that is different from, but has the same data volume as, and replaces a first P picture following the I picture.

73. (New) The method according to claim 69, wherein said modified Prediction coded image is a modified Prediction coded image whose modification is done by replacing an n-th interframe Prediction coded image (P picture) following the I picture with a first bidirectional Prediction coded image (B picture) following the P picture.

74. (New) The method according to claim 69, wherein said second stream is distributed via any of a switched telephone network (analog or digital) and a mobile telephone network with GSM, GPRS or UMTS.

75. (New) The method according to claim 69, wherein said first modified stream is a stream that can be decoded by a decoder that is itself based on an MPEG standard or is compliant with an MPEG standard.

76. (New) The method according to claim 69, wherein said coded stream is a stream that is encoded in an MPEG standard or is encoded by a method compliant with an MPEG standard; said Intra-frame coded image is equivalent to I picture in the MPEG standard; and said Prediction coded image is equivalent to P picture or B picture in the MPEG standard.

77. (New) The method according to claim 69, wherein said first modified stream includes a modified P block that constitutes part of the interframe Prediction coded image (P picture).

78. (New) A video-stream generating system that generates a video stream as a coded stream including a succession of frames each comprising at least one Intraframe coded image (I picture) and at least one Prediction coded image corresponding to differences between one digital image excluding said I picture and at least one other digital image, comprising:

at least one multimedia server which contains original video sequences; and

an analyzing device that analyzes the video stream originating from an input/output server, said analyzing device detecting said Prediction coded image in said video stream and generating two streams, one of which is a first modified stream and the other of which is a second stream; wherein said first modified stream includes a modified Prediction coded image, which is modified from said at least one detected Prediction coded image so that a resulting video sequence is visually altered, and an I picture, which is not modified, said first modified stream maintaining an encoding system applied to said original coded stream after said modification; said second stream including digital information that allows reconstruction from said modified Prediction coded image; and said video-stream generating system, in response to a request from a user, provides said first modified stream and transmits said second stream.

79. (New) The system according to claim 78, further comprising a memory that records a "private copy" marker indicating for each user a right to each video content; wherein said right of each user includes a right to watch a private copy of a video content an unlimited number of times, a right to watch the private copy a limited number of times with an indication of the number, or a right prohibiting private copying; said video-stream generating system, in response to a request from a user for privately copying a specific video content, providing said first modified stream to said user; and said video-stream generating system, in response to a

request from said user for watching said private copy of the video content, transmitting said second stream to said user after confirming the right to the video content.

80. (New) A video-stream playing device for playing a video stream as a coded stream including a succession of frames each comprising at least one Intra-frame coded image (I picture) and at least one Prediction coded image corresponding to differences between one digital image excluding said I picture and at least one other digital image, comprising:

a stream decoder which decodes said coded stream;

at least one recording interface which stores content of a first modified stream including a modified Prediction coded image, which has been modified from said at least one Prediction coded image so that a resulting video sequence is visually altered, and an I picture, which is not modified, said first modified stream maintaining an encoding system applied to said original coded stream after said modification;

at least one display interface; and

a synthesizing unit that detects said modified Prediction coded image in said first modified stream and reconstructs the original coded stream from said first modified stream and a second stream that includes the Prediction coded image, which is not modified.

81. (New) The device according to claim 80, wherein said synthesizing unit further comprises a memory device for temporarily storing said second stream; and said second stream stored temporarily in said memory device is deleted after the original coded stream is reconstructed from said second stream and said first modified stream, which is stored in said recording interface.